

THURSDAY, MARCH 4 1736.

N^o 214.

Occasioned by her Majesty's Birth-Day.



THE first Day of the present Month is distinguished by the Birth of that Great QUEEN, in whose Virtues this Nation hath so valuable an Interest, whose Person the Law of England considers as Second in the Kingdom, and whose illustrious Offspring are the greatest Security of our Religious and Civil Liberties; a faithful Englishman is naturally disposed to contemplate the amiable Character of this excellent Princess, as an Ornament and Advantage to the present Succession. She stands in the Rank of Princes, as the Mother of the Gods, in ancient Story; and the Happiness of Nations is assured by the Number of her Royal Progeny.

THE Difficulty of writing with Success, on a Character of so much Dignity, may justify any Author in copying from those whose Reputation may, and Ability warranted them to undertake what others ought rather to decline. Amongst the foremost of these, Mr. Addison will be allowed the best Judge of the greatest Characters, and the best qualified to praise the most perfect. If the Queen of Great Britain herself had the Applause of such a Writer, it will be confessed, that his Pen was equal to the Dignity of her Name; and, it will be her Glory in future Times, that, if the meanest and the lowest Libeller ever offered any Insults to a Person which could so little deserve them, and ought to be most sacred from them, she was praised and honoured by the greatest Genius and finest Writer which the English Nation hath produced. Her Character appears in those Works, which do Honour to our Language, like a Master-piece of Beauty in the Drawings of those Artists who alone could do it Justice.

I was led to make these Reflections, from reading the 21st Freeholder, wherein this Masterly Writer did Honour to the First Anniversary of the QUEEN'S Birth-day, after her Arrival in this Kingdom. I will detain the Reader no longer from what he must read with as much Pleasure from the beautiful Manner in which it is written, as from his Interest in the Truth of the Observations.

FRA. WALSHINGHAM.

*Qualis in Eurota stipes, aut per juga Cynthi,
Extremi Diana choros; quam mille secuta
Hinc atque hinc glomerantur Orades: ille pharetram
Festumuro, gradientisque Deas supereminet omnes.*

VIRG.

IT is not easy for any one, who saw the Magnificence of Yesterday in the Court of Great Britain, to turn his Thoughts for some time after on any other Subject. It was a Solemnity every Way suited to the Birth-day of a Princess, who is the Delight of our Nation, and the Glory of her Sex. Homer tells us, that when the Daughter of Jupiter presented herself among a Crowd of Goddesses, she was distinguished from the rest by her graceful Stature, and known by her superior Beauty, notwithstanding they were all beautiful. Such was the Appearance of the Princess of Wales among our British Ladies, or (to use a more solemn Phrase) of the King's Daughter among her Honourable Women. Her Royal Highness, in the midst of such a Circle, raises in the Beholder the Idea of a fine Picture, where (notwithstanding the Diversity of pleasing Objects that fill up the Canvas) the principal Figure immediately takes the Eye, and fixes the Attention.

WHEN this excellent Princess was yet in her Father's Court, she was so celebrated for the Beauty of her Person, and the Accomplishments of her Mind, that there was no Prince in the Empire, who had room for such an Alliance, that was not ambitious of gaining her into his Family, either as a Daughter, or as a Consort. He, who is now the Chief of the crowned Heads in Europe, and was then King of Spain, and Heir to all the Dominions of the House of Austria, sought her in Marriage. Could her Mind have been captivated with the Glories of this World,

she had them all laid before her; but she generously declined them, because she saw the Acceptance of them was inconsistent with what she esteems more than all the Glories of this World, the Enjoyment of her Religion. Providence however kept in Store a Reward for such an exalted Virtue, and, by the secret Methods of its Wisdom, opened a Way for her to become the Greatest of her Sex, among those who profess that Faith to which she adhered with so much Christian Magnanimity.

THIS her illustrious Conduct might, in the Eye of the World, have lost its Merit, had so accomplished a Prince as his Royal Highness declared his Passion for the same Alliance at that Time; it would then have been no Wonder that all other Proposals had been rejected. But it was the Fame of this heroic Constancy that determined his Royal Highness to desire in Marriage a Princess, whose personal Charms, which had before been so universally admired, were now become the least Part of her Character. We of the British Nation have Reason to rejoice, that such a Proposal was made and accepted, and that her Royal Highness, with regard to these two successive Treaties of Marriage, shewed as much Prudence in her Compliance with the one, as Piety in her Refusal of the other.

THE Princess was no sooner arrived at Hanover, than she improved the Lustre of that Court, which was before reckoned among the politest in Europe, and increased the Satisfaction of that People, who were before looked upon as the happiest in the Empire. She immediately became the Darling of the Princess Sophia, who was acknowledged, in all the Courts of Europe, the most accomplished Woman of the Age in which she lived, and who was not a little pleased with the Conversation of One, in whom she saw so lively an Image of her own Youth.

BUT I shall insist no longer on that Reputation which her Royal Highness has acquired in other Countries. We daily discover those admirable Qualities for which she is so justly famed, and rejoice to see them exerted in our own Country, where we ourselves are made happy by their Influence. We are the more pleased to behold the Throne of these Kingdoms surrounded by a numerous and beautiful Progeny, when we consider the Virtues of those from whom they descend. Not only the Features, but the Mind of the Parent is often copied out in the Offspring: But the Princess we are speaking of, takes the surest Method of making her Royal Issue like herself, by instilling early into their Minds, all the Principles of Religion, Virtue and Honour, and seasoning their tender Years with all that Knowledge which they are capable of receiving. What may we not hope from such an uncommon Care in the Education of the Children of Great Britain, who are directed by such Precepts, and will be formed by such an Example!

THE conjugal Virtues are so remarkable in her Royal Highness, as to deserve those just and generous Returns of Love and Tenderness, for which the Prince her Husband is so universally celebrated.

BUT there is no Part of her Royal Highness's Character, which we observe with greater Pleasure, than that Behaviour by which she has so much endeared herself to his Majesty; tho' indeed we have no Reason to be surprized at this mutual Intercourse of Duty and Affection, when we consider so wise and virtuous a Princess possessing, in the same sacred Person, the kindest of Fathers, and the best of Kings. And here it is natural for us to congratulate our own good Fortune, who see our Sovereign blest with a numerous Issue, among whom are Heirs Male in two direct Descents, which has not happened in the Reign of any English King since the Time of his Majesty's Great Ancestor Edward III. and is a Felicity not enjoyed by the Subjects of any other of the Kings of Europe who are his Contemporaries. We are like Men entertained with the View of a spacious Landscape, where the Eye passes over one pleasing Prospect into another, till the Sight is lost, by Degrees, in a Succession of delightful Objects, and leaves us in the Persuasion that there remain still more behind.

BUT if we regard her Royal Highness in that Light which diffuses the greatest Glory round a human

Character, we shall find the Christian no less conspicuous than the Princess. She is as eminent for a sincere Piety in the Practice of Religion, as for an inviolable Adherence to its Principles. She is constant in her Attendance on the daily Offices of our Church, and by her serious and devout Comportment on these solemn Occasions, gives an Example that is very often too much wanted in Courts.

HER Religion is equally free from the Weakness of Superstition and the Sourness of Enthusiasm. It is not of that uncomfortable, melancholy Nature which disappoints its own End, by appearing unamiable to those whom it would gain to its Interests. It discovers itself in the genuine Effects of Christianity, in Affability, Compassion, Benevolence, Evenness of Mind, and all the Offices of an active and universal Charity.

As a cheerful Temper is the necessary Result of these Virtues, so it shines out in all the Parts of her Conversation, and dissipates those Apprehensions which naturally hang on the Timorous or the Modest, when they are admitted to the Honour of her Presence. There is none that does not listen, with Pleasure, to a Person in so high a Station, who condescends to make herself thus agreeable, by Mirth without Levity, and Wit without ill Nature.

HER Royal Highness is indeed possessed of all those Talents which make Conversation either delightful or improving. As she has a fine Taste of the elegant Arts, and is skilled in several modern Languages, her Discourse is not confined to the ordinary Subjects and Forms of Conversation, but can adapt itself, with an uncommon Grace, to every Occasion, and entertain the politest Persons of different Nations. I need not mention, what is observed by every one, that agreeable Turn which appears in her Sentiments, upon the most ordinary Affairs of Life, and which is so suitable to the Delicacy of her Sex, the Politeness of her Education, and the Splendor of her Quality.

It would be vain to think of drawing into the Compass of this Paper, the many eminent Virtues which adorn the Character of this great Princess; but as it is one chief End of this Undertaking, to make the People sensible of the Blessings which they enjoy under his Majesty's Reign, I could not but lay hold on this Opportunity to speak of That, which ought, in Justice, to be reckoned among the greatest of them.

Edinburgh, Feb. 24. They write from Inverness, that the Earl of Effingham's Regiment marched out of that Town on Friday the 6th Instant, in very bad Weather; so that the poor Women and Children that were obliged to follow the Regiment, were much to be pitied; the Lord Lovat having marched into the Town the Day before, at the Head of 50 Men of his Highland Company, and taken Possession of the Guard and Town. By the same Letters there are dismal Accounts from Fort Augustus: A Detachment of Colonel Hamilton's Regiment that passed the Hill of Corriggerrock, in their Way South, had almost perished in the Snow, which was several Feet high above the Roads; two Women and four Children perished on the Hill; and if Captain Caulfield of the same Regiment, who is a very strong Man, had not been supported and assisted by two able Men of Sir Duncan Campbell's Highland Company, who went with him as Guides, he had certainly lost his Life on the Hill, having fallen several Times in Pits of the Snow, much deeper than any Man's Height.

Edinburgh, Feb. 26. Yesterday died Alexander Menzies of Coulterallars, Advocate, in the 60th Year of his Age; a Gentleman universally beloved, and therefore much regretted.

As did also Mr. David Crawford of Allington, Clerk to the Admission of Notaries.

Last Tuesday the Recruits for the Dutch Service on board of Captain Crawford's Ship now lying in the Road of Leith, mutinied, and maltreated the Ship, the Master being on Shore, and were not brought to Reason but by a Party of Soldiers firing upon them, by which their Ringleader was mortally wounded.

L O N.

L O N D O N.

Yesterday John Lawton, Esq; Deputy Chamberlain of the Exchequer, and Keeper of the Records, was sworn into the Office of Deputy Teller of the Exchequer, under the Hon. Thomas Townshend, Esq; one of the Tellers. And he is succeeded in his Office as Deputy Chamberlain of the Exchequer, by Abraham Farley, Esq;

Last Week a young Woman died in Isleworth Church Yard, occasioned by drinking of Geneva.

About the same Time, four Soldiers died at one Drinking-bout of these pernicious Poisons at Rochester.

At Selbourn near Farnham, a substantial Farmer and his Wife, having both drank Spirits to Excess, she died of it, and he is ruin'd, and his two Children are thrown upon the Parish, perhaps as long as they live, for they have been ever since they were born, wither'd, puny, and debilitated, so that there is little Hopes, if they should survive, that they will be able to earn their Bread.

On Monday Evening (being her Majesty's Birth-day) the Right Hon. the Grand Master of the Ancient and most Honourable Society of Free and Accepted Masons, attended by the Grand Officers, went to the London Punch House, and there in the most Solemn and Magnificent Manner, constituted a Lodge to be held every first and third Thursday in every Month; there were present several Persons of Distinction, who were all entertain'd in a sumptuous Manner; the whole conducted with as great Order and Decency as ever was known on such an Occasion.

To-morrow Morning the Right Hon. the Lord Delawar will embark at Greenwich, on board one of his Majesty's Yachts, in order to sail for Ostend, and thence to proceed to the Court of Saxo-Gotha, to demand the Princess his Sister in Marriage with his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

This Day at Noon a General Council will be held at St. James's, when Mr. Baron Thompson will attend, and make his Report of Anne Newman, condemned last Session at the Old Bailey, for stealing out of the Escritore of Jacob Buralgo, 21 Guineas and a half.

The same Morning the Corpse of Sir Gilbert Pickering, Knight, who lately died at his House in Cavendish-square, will be carried from thence, to be interred in the Vault of his Ancestors at Northampton.

Early this Morning the Corpse of Sir John Meres, Knight, who lately died at his House in Great Russell-street, was carried from thence to be interred at his Seat in the County of Leicester. He is said to have died worth 140,000 l. and dying a Batchelor, and without a Will, his Estate will be divided amongst his Sister's Children.

Last Sunday Morning died at his House at Rochester, Captain George Smith, formerly a Captain in the Royal Navy.

Thursday last was tried at Guild-hall, London, before the Right Hon. the Lord Hardwick, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, by a special Jury, a Cause wherein Mr. Wood, on the Part of the King and himself was Plaintiff, and an eminent Woodmonger, Defendant; for that the said Woodmonger sold 20 Chaldron of Coals, Pool-Measure, which should have been 21 Chaldron, and delivered to the Buyer only 20 thereof, sending away and selling the other Chaldron to another Customer of his, in Breach of an Act of Parliament made in the 3d Year of his present Majesty, intitled, An Act for the better Regulation of the Coal Trade. The Fact being fully proved, the Plaintiff obtained a Verdict for 100l. the Penalty fixed by the said Act for the said Offence. From this Case 'tis hoped, that all Persons who shall for the future deal with Woodmongers for Coals, will take care they have their full Measure from them.

Yesterday one Watkins was committed to the Gatehouse Westminster, by Justice Scott, for robbing Mr. Robinson on the Highway, of a Silver Watch and some Silver.

The same Morning Thomas Marsh and Richard Marshal, who barbarously murdered and robbed Mr. Pontifex the Farmer, near High Wycomb in Bucks, on the 23d of January last, were re-examined by Justice Blackerby of Westminster, when they endeavoured to extenuate their particular Guilt in the Murder; but young Mr. Pontifex, the Deceased's Son, who was with his Father when they shot him, being confronted with them, swore, that Marsh, the Person who gave Information against Marshal, was the Man who shot his Father; upon which they were both committed to Newgate, and this Day will be removed by a Habeas Corpus to Aylesbury in the County of Bucks, to be tried for the same at the Assizes, which begin on Wednesday next at the said Town.

Yesterday Bank Stock was 149 1-4th. India 174. South Sea 95 7-8ths. Old Annuity 111. New ditto 109 1-8th. Three per Cent. Annuity 162 1-4th. Emperor's Loan 112 1-half. Royal-Assurance 104 1-4th. London-Assurance 13 7-8ths. York Buildings 2. African 10. India Bonds 51. 14 s. to 16 s. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 41. 14 s. to 15 s. Prem. South Sea Bonds 51. 2 s. to 3 s. Premium. New Bank Circulation 61. 5 s. Prem. Salt Tallies 4 to 5. Prem. English Copper 21. 4 s. Welsh ditto, no Price. Three 1-half per Cent. Exchequer Orders 5 per Cent. Prem. Million Bank 112 1-half.

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